

COUNTERFEIT GERMAN PERFINS

The following letter has been received from Dr Hillmann (via Gerald Soutar) who is the editor of the German Perfin Catalogue. The letter will be in the German Club's 'Rundbrief' and probably in the American Perfins Club Bulletin.

"Since the completion of the German perfins catalog, I have been receiving perfins from various collectors who could not find the pattern in the catalog. Such reports are very welcome for catalog improvement.

I recently received 41 unlisted patterns from an American friend who had received them from a collector in the US. Most of these perfins looked like they had been clumsily and poorly counterfeited by hand. A detailed analysis by two collectors in Holland proved beyond doubt that 38 of the 41 perfins are counterfeits. The exact method of analysis should not be publicised in order to prevent that the counterfeiter uses that information to improve the quality of his work.

I have registered these counterfeits, but they will not be published in the additions to the German catalog. The patterns are shown below and on the next page. This information is published to warn other collectors. The stamps were purchased by the owner from a source in Rumania. The identity of the counterfeiter has not yet been determined. Both collectors and counterfeiters should be aware that the positive identification of such counterfeits is reliably possible.'

For those with copies of Bulletin 264 (June'93) Pg. 13-17, there was a similar letter from Magnus Werner and illustrations of forgeries on stamps of many different countries. These were said to have originated in Poland. No more information came my way about those forgeries. Is there any connection?



